

Message Text

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10

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

OMB-01 NEA-10 IO-13 RSR-01 /112 W

----- 043222

R 090745Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4164

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY TANARIVE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR SE XJ

SUBJ: MEETING OCAM FOREIGN MINISTERS

1. ON EVE OF MEETING OCAM FOREIGN MINISTERS TO BE HELD

DAKAR AUGUST 9-10, LE SOLEIL HAS PUBLISHED ARTICLE PROBABLY

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BASED ON INTERVIEW WITH SENEGALESE SECRETARY GENERAL OF

OCAM, FALILOU KANE.

2. MAIN PURPORT OF ARTICLE IS THAT NEITHER THE SECRETARY GENERAL NOR THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF OCAM (SENGHOR) CAN MAKE ANY MORE OUT OF THAT ORGANIZATION THAN ITS MEMBER STATES WISH TO MAKE OF IT. ARTICLE NOTES OCAM LEADERS HAVE BEEN HANDICAPPED BY REFUSAL SOME MEMBER STATES RESPECT THEIR COMMITMENTS, PAY THEIR DUES, OR PROVIDE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO PROPER COORDINATION OCAM ACTIVITIES. IN REVIEWING RECENT TREND AWAY FROM OCAM, DISAPPOINTMENT OF SENEGALESE SEEMS CLEAR.

3. DESPITE FATALISTIC TONE WITH REGARD TO FUTURE, SENEGALESE APPARENTLY STILL FEEL CONSTRAINED DEFEND OCAM FROM ITS CRITICS AND SEARCH FOR MEANS TO REVIVE IT. IN THIS CONTEXT, ARTICLE AVERS THAT SIMPLY BECAUSE ALL ITS MEMBERS FRANCOPHONE DOES NOT MEAN OCAM TIED TO FRANCE OR A "VALET OF IMPERIALISM" ANQMORE THAN SAME WOULD BE TRUE OF AFRICAN COMMONWEALTH STATES. MOREOVER, THE OCAM AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR THE POSSIBLE ACCESSION OF OTHER AFRICAN STATES, INCLUDING ANGLOPHONES. IF THIS MEETING COULD RE-EXAMINE THE REASONS FOR THE DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN ANGLOPHONES AND FRANCOPHONAS, WHICH ARE NOT THOSE ATTRIBUTED TO IT BY ITS CRITICS, THE ARTICLE IMPLIES, PERHAPS AN OPENING TWOARDS THE ANGLOPHONES COULD BE FOUND.

4. COMMENT: ONE EVIDENCE GOS DESIRE TO PROVIDE SOME LUSTER TO OCAM FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IS FACT THAT CHIEFS OF MISSION HAVE BEEN INVITED TO HEAR OPENING ADDRESS BY SENGHOR.

5. TO EXTENT LE SOLEIL REFLECTING OFFICIAL LINE, IT IS PROBABLE GOS UNLIKELY FIGHT HARD PRESERVE FUNCTIONING ORGANIZATION IF REMAINING MEMBERS NO LONGER INTERESTED. WHIEL THERE IS HINT GOS MAY WISH OPEN OCAM TO ANGLOPHONES, IT IS DIFFICULT UNDERSTAND NEED FOR SUCH ORGANIZATION IF PROJECTED WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (WAEC), INCLUDING AT LEAST SOME FRENCOPHONES AND ANGLOPHONES, BECOMES A REALITY. SENEGALESE WILLINGNESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSIDER ANGLOPHONE TIES OF WHATEVER SORT NONETHELESS INTERESTING.

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